

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8-16, 19, 20, 33 and 36 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 42-46 have been newly added. Newly added claims 42-46 correspond to original dependent claims 8-11 and 36 and have been made dependent from allowed claim 41. Accordingly, it is believed that they do not raise new issues. Claims 38-46 are pending and under consideration. Claims 38-41 are the independent claims. No new matter is presented in this Amendment.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENT:

Entry of the foregoing amendments is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b) because these amendments simply respond to the issues raised in the final rejection, no new issues are raised, no further search is required, and the foregoing amendments are believed to remove the basis of the outstanding rejections and to place all claims in condition for allowance.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claims 19 and 20 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 19 and 20 is moot.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 1, 8-16, 19, 20, 33, 36 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Vourlis, U.S. 5,432,030 in view of Evans et al., U.S. 4,302,520.

It is noted that claims 1, 8-16, 19, 20, 33, 36 and 37 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1, 8-16, 19, 20, 33, 36 and 37 is moot.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:

Claims 38-41 are allowed.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

STEIN, MCEWEN & BUI, LLP

Date: 10/12/07

By: Douglas X. Rodriguez
Douglas X. Rodriguez
Registration No. 47,269

1400 Eye St., N.W.
Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 216-9505
Facsimile: (202) 216-9510